

God is Bigger Than Your Problems

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1 Samuel 17:41-51

Rev. Mark Haywood II

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Using This Study

❶ EXAMINE His Word

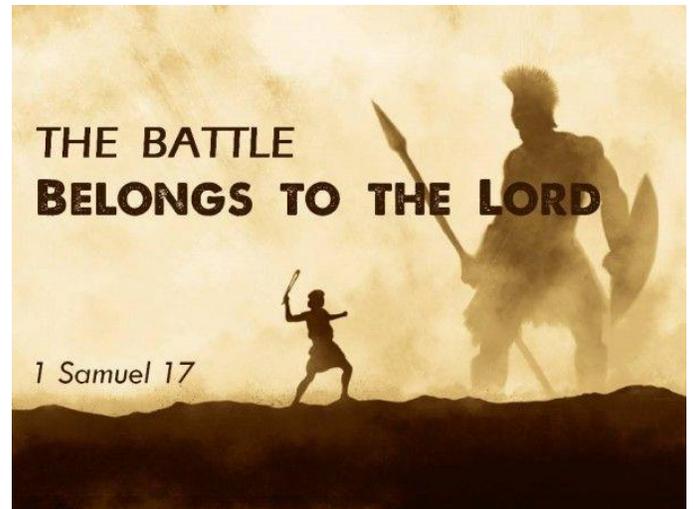
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



This week Clear Lake Bible Church is joined by God's Household of Faith for a combined worship service. Reverend Mark Haywood II will be speaking on 1 Samuel 17:41-51. This is the story of David and Goliath. David is facing the seemingly insurmountable giant in Goliath. However, David never loses faith that God is bigger. For us, God is still bigger than all our problems. Even when it seems that everything is coming apart and the battle is lost we can take comfort in knowing that the God of all creation loves us and is on our side. He is bigger than our problems.



1 Samuel 17:41-51 (NIV)

⁴¹ Meanwhile, the Philistine, with his shield bearer in front of him, kept coming closer to David. ⁴² He looked David over and saw that he was little more than a boy, glowing with health and handsome, and he despised him. ⁴³ He said to David, "Am I a dog, that you come at me with sticks?" And the Philistine cursed David by his gods. ⁴⁴ "Come here," he said, "and I'll give your flesh to the birds and the wild animals!"

⁴⁵ David said to the Philistine, "You come against me with sword and spear and javelin, but I come against you in the name of the LORD Almighty, the God of the armies of Israel, whom you have defied. ⁴⁶ This day the LORD will deliver you into my hands, and I'll strike you down and cut off your head. This very day I will give the carcasses of the Philistine army to the birds and the wild animals, and the whole world will know

that there is a God in Israel. ⁴⁷ All those gathered here will know that it is not by sword or spear that the LORD saves; for the battle is the LORD's, and he will give all of you into our hands."

⁴⁸ As the Philistine moved closer to attack him, David ran quickly toward the battle line to meet him. ⁴⁹ Reaching into his bag and taking out a stone, he slung it and struck the Philistine on the forehead. The stone sank into his forehead, and he fell facedown on the ground.

⁵⁰ So David triumphed over the Philistine with a sling and a stone; without a sword in his hand he struck down the Philistine and killed him.

⁵¹ David ran and stood over him. He took hold of the Philistine's sword and drew it from the sheath. After he killed him, he cut off his head with the sword.

When the Philistines saw that their hero was dead, they turned and ran.

● EXAMINE His Word (Observation) (For personal preparation)

What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details and terms emphasized in the foregoing passage.

1. Where does this narrative take place?
2. Describe the (human) villain in the narrative? (hint: verses 4-7)
3. Describe the (human) hero in this narrative?

2 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation) (For Community Group discussion)
What does God MEAN?

4. Why did the Israelite army not challenge the villain?

5. Why was the hero able to face the villain?

6. Who is the true hero of this narrative?

3 EMBRACE His Word (Application) (For Community Group discussion)
Why does this MATTER to me?

7. What can we learn from the (human) hero's example?

8. How can we apply what we learned to our daily lives (ie: at work, school, home, etc.)?

9. How can we use this Biblical narrative to encourage others?

Summarize your thoughts on the passage

Write about what God wants you to KNOW, to FEEL, and to DO...

SERMON NOTES